

March 29, 2007 COSMETIC SURGEON PLEADS GUILTY TO FEDERAL TAX CHARGES

Kevin J. O'Connor, United States Attorney for the District of Connecticut, announced that DR. TERESITA MASCARDO, age 59 of 653 Branchville, Road, Ridgefield, Connecticut, pleaded guilty today before Senior United States District Judge Ellen Bree Burns in New Haven to one count of making and subscribing a false income tax return. In addition, TERESITA MASCARDO, M.D., P.C., the professional corporation through which MASCARDO conducted her medical practice, pleaded guilty to a charge of tax evasion.

According to documents filed with the Court and statements made in court, MASCARDO is a surgeon whose practice involves elective cosmetic surgery and reconstructive surgery, and she maintained offices in Manhattan, Ridgefield, and Danbury. In pleading guilty, MASCARDO admitted that, during the years 1998 through 2001, she skimmed receipts of her professional corporation, but did not record these receipts on the books and records of the corporation. On her 2001 individual income tax return filed with the IRS, MASCARDO reported income in the amount of \$179,005, but omitted additional amounts of income, which she had skimmed from her professional corporation. MASCARDO's total tax deficiency for the 2001 tax year amounted to approximately \$4,726. Similarly, MASCARDO's professional corporation did not report the skimmed receipts as income on its corporate tax return for the year 2000, resulting in a total tax deficiency of \$17,206 for that year.

Judge Burns has scheduled sentencing for June 19, 2007, at which time MASCARDO faces a maximum term of imprisonment of three years of imprisonment and a fine of up to \$100,000. Her professional corporation, TERESITA MASCARDO, M.D., P.C., faces a maximum penalty of five years of probation and a \$500,000 fine. Both MASCARDO and her professional corporation have fully paid the taxes due and owing for the years 1998 through 2001, along with penalties and interest.

This case was investigated by the Internal Revenue Service – Criminal Investigation Division. The case is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney John A. Marrella.

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